



UNIVERSITY OF LETHBRIDGE SENATE APPROVED MINUTES

**Friday, February 7, 2025
1:30 p.m., AH100 & Zoom**

- Present:** T. Whitehead (Chair), V. Boras, M. Booyens, T. Boulet, N. Buis-Deering, A. Cormican, F. Baskerville, D. Colwell, R. DeGagne, J. Dempsey, J. Doan, R. Doria, J. Dubiel, B. Galts, K. Godfrey, K. Greenwood, M. Helstein, D. Jayas, L. Kolk, S. Koppe, O. Kovalchuk, D. Lucas, H. MacBeath, G. Mankee, L. Michael, S. Mintz, R. Myndio, M. Oladoye, J. Oldfield, H. Ortega Arango, T. Petriw, I. Rawji, K. Rabbit-Young Pine, T. Rempel, T. Saunders, B. Scott, J. Shriner, L. Spadavecchia, M. Thomas, B. Tucker, L. Wyton, D. Yellow Horn
- Regrets:** A. Boras, M. Campmans, C. Crane, T. Grindle, C. Irakoze, A. Mardon, L. Neufeld, T. Panczak, S. Parmar, U. Patel, D. Piper, M. Qazi, S. Sjovold, B. Spenceley, J. Steed, M. Watson
- Other:** G. DeSteur, J. Gallais, J. Rice

The Chair opened with the Territorial Acknowledgement. Senate Presentation: “Holistic support for graduate studies at the University of Lethbridge” from Dr. Jackie Rice, Associate Vice-President (Research) & Dean, Graduate Studies

1. **CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

- 1.1. Approval of the Senate Meeting Agenda – February 7, 2025
- 1.2. Approval of the Senate Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2024

MOTION: sen.2025.02.01

Scott/Mintz

That the Senate approve the Consent Agenda for February 7, 2025.

Motion: Carried

2. **CHANCELLOR’S REPORT**

T. Whitehead highlighted the enclosed report and highlighted the PUBLIC Professor on January 30th, Senate Night and Shoot for the Cure Basketball Games, and the International Dinner. Senators were also encouraged to attend the next screening of Brainstorm and the Abbondanza in April.

3. **PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

D. Jayas was not present and M. Helstein presented the President’s Report to Senate. M. Helstein highlighted a couple items from the Report:

- Chancellor Whitehead received the King Charles III Coronation Medal on February 20.
- Highlighted Dr. Aileen Cormican’s \$25,000 gift (matched by Board of Governors) to establish the first award connected to the Southern Alberta Medical Program.

4. REPORTS

4.1. Board of Governors

T. Boulet highlighted the enclosed report.

4.2. General Faculties Council

N. Buis Deering was not present, and the Chair noted the report is enclosed.

4.3. Alumni Association

C. Crane was not present, and the Chair noted that the report is enclosed.

4.4. Graduate Students' Association

J. Dubiel provided a verbal update and noted the following:

- Meeting of the Minds Conference on March 21st and 22nd – everyone is welcome, and the GSA is looking for judges and asked Senate if any were interested to scan the QR code that was passed around.

4.5. Students' Union

M. Thomas provided a verbal update and noted the following:

- The 2024 Pass the Hat Winner was announced and Senate won this year – over 3K\$ raised for student food security on campus.
- Increased food bank gift cards and access to food for students.
- Strategic Plan finalization with Blackfoot translation exploration.
- Award increases and new awards introduced; Awards Night planned for April.
- Upass advocacy and collaboration underway with the City and Polytechnique.
- USLU Tailgate Event scheduled for February 15th.
- Upcoming Academic Speaker Series and student engagement events.

4.6. Executive Committee

T. Whitehead highlighted the enclosed report.

4.7. Engagement Committee

T. Saunders presented the enclosed report and highlighted the Senate Mentorship Event and the upcoming Pronghorns home games.

4.8. Honorary Degree Committee

B. Galts presented the enclosed reports.

4.9. Volunteer Award Committee*

T. Whitehead noted that this committee has not met since the last meeting of Senate and heightened the upcoming nomination deadline of February 15th.

4.10. Other Member Reports/Inquiries

**This committee has not met since the last Senate meeting*

5. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

5.1. Senate Meeting Schedule 2025-26

G. DeSteur spoke on the 2025-2026 Senate Meeting Schedule and highlighted that this is available on the Senate website and SharePoint.

5.2. Senate Meeting - April 11, 2025

T. Whitehead spoke on the upcoming plans for Senate to attend Head-Smashed-In-Buffalo Jump

for the April 11, 2025, Senate meeting.

5.3. Senate Award Student Thank You Notes

T. Whitehead presented the thank you notes from student recipients of the Senate Scholarship Award.

5.4. Senate Engagement Schedule

T. Petriw/T. Saunders highlighted new additions to the Senate Engagement Schedule and noted that the most up to date version can always be found on SharePoint.

6. ITEMS FOR ACTION (*In Camera*)

6.1. Approval of Honorary Degree Recipients

B. Galts led the Senate in the election of the Honorary Degree Recipients. The meeting was moved in camera for discussion and a separate set of in camera minutes were taken.

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

7.1. Senate Moments

T. Saunders led Senate Moments, and the following were shared:

22 Senate Moments were shared

- S. Mintz attended the International Dinner and really enjoyed the opportunity to meet with new students at mixed tables.
- M. Booyens thanked the Senate and the University for the support and being able to bring Johan to Senate Meetings. M. Booyens also thanked the Senate and University for the flowers that were sent when Johan was in the hospital.
- G. Mankee gave a thank you to Dr. Henrie Beaulieu, Faculty in Indigenous Studies, as G. Mankee is taking one of their classes and is really enjoying the class. G. Mankee also thanked Michael Gale, Paul Pan, and Wayne Provost for their help and support over the year. G. DeSteur was also thanked for the exceptionally large agenda package for today's meeting. It was recommended to all Senators put in as much as they can in terms of getting involved.
- J. Shriner highlighted Abendanza & Vibe Fest that are coming up in April. It was highlighted that this event will be different format and is set to be the highlight of the year. Senators were encouraged to get involved.
- B. Scott spoke on some upcoming events to the Main Stage Show of Paradise Law and B. Scott noted how excited she is for this event.
- J. Doan thanked A. Cormican for her generous scholarship endowment. Tim Caulfield was also thanked for the talk he gave to the faculty. J. Doan also highlighted Chase Petruska, one of his students, who has established the Lethbridge Power Soccer Program here.
- T. Petriw was excited to run into former Senator, Jim Miller, who is endowing 2 scholarships in his and his mother's name to support students in the Music Program.
- T. Saunders talked about attending events with her Senator name tag on and noted how people ask about the Senate and what the Senate does. Senators were encouraged to wear their name tag as much as they can.
- T. Boulet attended the Faculty of Education Blackfoot naming and really enjoyed hearing the elders speak. T. Boulet also attended the Brainstorm screening event at Yates and enjoyed it, especially the Q&A following the event.
- K. Rabbit Young-Pine was asked by Tourism Lethbridge to present an award to an Indigenous business. Following that event a few students reached out to K. Rabbit Young-Pine, and she was able to have lunch with them earlier today and was able to have some amazing conversations.

- J. Oldfield thanked the Board of Governors for their supported with the matching campaign to provide emergency bursaries to Graduate Students. It was noted that the use of these bursaries has increased and that this funding now stands in perpetuity because of the matching.
- T. Petriw asked T. Whitehead if the Board Chair will be doing any push-ups as Senate won Pass the Hat this Year. Senate was also reminded about the Upcoming Chancellors Dinner & Convocation in May.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: sen.2025.02.04

Thomas/Cormican

That the Senate be adjourned for February 7, 2025.

Motion: Carried